
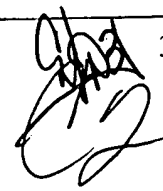


In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-11, 14-16, 18, 20-36 and 43-89.

Please amend Claims 19 and 37. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

-  19. (Twice Amended) An ELISA kit comprising the human cartilage oligomeric matrix protein produced by the method:
- a) obtaining DNA encoding full length hCOMP;
  - b) introducing the DNA into cells, thereby producing cells expressing hCOMP;
  - c) culturing the cells in a culture medium under conditions suitable for expressing the hCOMP, thereby producing expressed hCOMP; and
  - d) purifying the hCOMP in the presence of calcium.
-  37. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising purified cartilage oligomeric matrix protein and a biological matrix, wherein the matrix comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of: treated cartilage and bone matrices, collagens, hyaluronan, fibrin gels, carbon fibers, porous polylactic acid, type I collagen gel, and type II collagen gel.

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 14-16, 18, 20-36 and 43-89 have been canceled. Claims 19 and 37 have been amended.